Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

MC-02 ACDA-05 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /072 W ------ 011927

R 041341Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3277 INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY OSLO USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, MARR

SUBJECT: CALLAGHAN PROPOSAL ON COOPERATIVE ATLANTIC ARMAMENTS SYSTEM

1. THOMAS CALLAGHAN, A PRIVATE CONSULTANT WHO HAS DONE PROFESSIONAL STUDIES FOR USG, GAVE US MARCH 3 A RUNDOWN OF HIS WIDE-SWEEPING PROPOSAL FOR A COMMON EUROPEAN-AMERICAN ARMS DEVELOPMENT AND PROCUREMENT SYSTEM. IN CALLAGHAN CONCEPT WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND U.S. WOULD SET UP BY TREATY A SYSTEM WHEREUNDER MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD STANDARDIZE ON SINGLE WEAPONS SYSTEMS WITH CONTRACTORS BOUND TO SUPPLY NEEDS OF ALL. R & D AND PRODUCTION PROGRAMS WOULD BE SO RIGGED THAT THE FLOW OF FUNDS OUT OF MILITARY BUDGETS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC WOULD BALANCE OUT IN THE LONG RUN. CALLAGHAN MAINTAINS THIS WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH ACHIEVEMENT OF STANDARDIZATION SAVINGS IN ORDER OF \$10 BILLION PER YEAR AND ACQUISITION OF TOP-DRAWER WEAPONRY.

2. CALLAGHAN PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE RIGOROUS ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE WHETHER SCHEME IS INHERENTLY FEASIBLE. OBVIOUS POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL OBSTACLES ON BOTH SIDES OF WATER MAKE CALLAGHAN CONFIDENTIAL

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PLAN AT BEST A LONG-TERM PROPOSITION. IN THE IMMEDIATE SITUATION,

WE BELIEVE THAT HIS IDEA, IF BROACHED TO BENELUX GOVERNMENTS, WOULD AROUSE QUICK SUSPICION AND INADVERTENTLY DAMAGE OUR CAUSE IN F-104 REPLACEMENT EFFORT.

3. WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO MR. CALLAGHAN THAT NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO PUBLICIZE HIS CONCEPT IN BELGIUM, EVEN IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRIVATE PERSON ON GOOD TERMS WITH USG. EMBASSY WILL NOT FACILITATE ACCESS OF CALLAGHAN TO BELGIAN GOVERNMENT OR OTHER INFLUENTIAL BELGIAN QUARTERS. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMS, POLICIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRUSSE01833

Document Number: 1975BRUSSE01833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D750075-0970

From: BRUSSELS

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750386/aaaaczgy.tel Line Count: 70

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CALLAGHAN PROPOSAL ON COOPERATIVE ATLANTIC ARMAMENTS SYSTEM TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MILI, US, (CALLAGHAN, THOMAS)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006